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REVIEW OF THE POLISH SPECIES OF THE GENUS RHANTUS DEJEAN (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae)

[Przeegląd krajowych gatunków z rodzaju *Rhantus* DeJean (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae)]. By Kazimierz Galewski (in *Annales Zoologici* (Polaska Akademia Nauk), Vol. 16, No. 17 pp. 223-319, 10 maps, 13 plates. 1957).

This detailed morphological study of the 10 Polish species of *Rhantus* (= *Rantus*) should be useful to workers interested in the central European fauna. The many fine illustrations of structures used in taxonomy make the paper usable even for those who do not read Polish. The distribution of each species is illustrated by a map, and detailed keys for identification are included. The bibliography is extensive, but contains few references to recent works by eastern Europeans. Summaries in Russian and English are appended.

In addition to the morphological and taxonomic portions the ecology of each species is discussed. The author finds that the forms in general are eurytopic, but some show preference for definite types of aquatic situations. *Rhantus suturellus* (Harris)*, for example, prefers acid waters in wooded situations, while *R. bistratus* (Bergstr.) (= *adpersus* Fabr.) frequents bodies of water in meadows, pastures, and other open areas. *R. incognitus* Sholz is definitely recorded from Europe for the first time. About 40 specimens have been collected since 1952 in the little river Hwezna in the National Park at Bialowieza, and another record is given for Kopauki near Kalusz in the Ukrainian S. S. R. One species, *R. consputus* (Sturm), formerly widely distributed appears to be dying out and has been found in recent years only in Lower Silesia. All but three of the Polish species of *Rhantus* have been found in forests under moss and in litter during the winter months indicating that they hibernate as adults.—FRANK N. YOUNG, *Indiana University*

*This is the continental European usage of this name which according to F. Balfour-Browne (*British Water Beetles*, Vol. II, Ray Society, London, 1950: 235-239) refers to *bistratus* (Bergstr.) which name is used on the continent to refer to *adpersus* Fabr.